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## NOTES

**SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS.**—Plans are being made for holding several special exhibitions in the autumn, including one of tiles of all countries and periods and another of tapestries. A third exhibition which is in contemplation will be one of counterfeits and reproductions which will be of an educational nature. Due notice of these exhibitions will be given in the October BULLETIN.

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**COLONIAL RELIC.**—A colonial stairway from the celebrated old mansion, Chalkley Hall, Frankford, has been procured for the Museum, through the kindness of Mrs. Edward Wetherill, the owner of the property, and will be properly installed in the near future.



## SCHOOL NOTES

The sessions of the Art Department closed for the season of 1914-15, June 3d. The exhibition of work is considered the most professional in character yet shown as the result of any one year's efforts. Certain of the studies, pottery, wrought iron, and furniture, have been carried farther than ever before. Lace and needlework have been added to the practical features, and it is planned to develop several of the crafts the coming term, by having individuals especially competent in these subjects to devote their entire time to them. In this way a sufficient bulk of production will be effected to make an impression of the absolutely practical character of the work. This is already inaugurated by an arrangement with one of the graduates, Leon W. Corson, to devote the summer to sgraffito pottery and stoneware, in both of which he has shown himself an adept. He, last year, won the C. Burnham Squier foreign scholarship, and made studies of the old Italian ware while in Florence, at the museums, and in the various potteries where examples of it exist. Many of the most valuable of these are mere fragments, sufficient to furnish the elements of the design, and Mr. Corson has a considerable collection of these among his sketches. Mr. H. H. Battles, who has watched the development of ceramics at the School, from their inception, contemplates the permanent establishment of one or more of the particular types of ware as a commercial product.

A proposition to present the subject of posters and other forms of advertising in a large and comprehensive way, has been made by Mr. Carol Aronovici, and the suggestion has now taken a sufficiently definite form to plan its consummation in the autumn. The meetings and addresses would be at the School and the exhibit at some more central place, probably the pavilion in the City Hall courtyard. The men best qualified to speak on the subject of the art of advertising are ready to assist the movement, and it will decidedly further the efforts here to develop the practical side of illustration. One of the features will be the working exhibition of students of the School, during the

conference, when the designing and execution of advertisements in various forms and mediums will be carried on in the class rooms.

Mr. Henry C. Mercer entertained the students of interior decoration at his remarkable house at Doylestown, while they were on a visit to his tile works, and the Curtis Publishing Company arranged a special morning for them to inspect its building and decorations.

The exhibit sent by the School to the annual convention of the American Federation of Arts, which was held in Washington, May 12th, 13th and 14th, attracted much attention and very favorable comment. The exhibition is installed in the National Museum and is to remain open during the summer. The purpose of the exhibition is to show the progress of industrial art in America, rather than to trace or record the development of educational methods, and this School was the only one which was invited to send an exhibit. A feature of the convention that was a subject of much gratification, was the prominence given to industrial art among the subjects which were discussed at the meetings, and the unquestioning recognition of a frankly industrial purpose as the only safe guide in modern art education, which formed the underlying motive in most of the papers presented.

The commencement exercises were held at the Broad Street Theater on Thursday evening, June 3d; the graduating class numbered fifty-one, the largest, with one exception, in the history of the School. Certificates were awarded to two hundred and sixty students on the completion of partial courses. The commencement address was delivered by Philander P. Claxton, LL.D., U. S. Commissioner of Education, his subject being "The Place of Art in Democratic Education."

The third annual tour of the graduating classes of the Textile Department of the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art, was the most successful of any of the three. The party composed of seventeen members, under the supervision of Director E. W. France and Richard E. Cox, of the faculty, spent the week following commencement touring the largest of the mill centers in New England, to study the problems incident to the handling of large establishments. Particular attention was paid to efficiency, economy of power transmission, character of help, location of mills with reference to the housing of labor and water power, besides the character of labor required for coarse, fine or novelty stuffs. They visited the largest textile mills of the country, located in Fall River, Mass.; Pawtucket, R. I.; Providence, R. I.; Olneyville, R. I.; Worcester, Mass.; Cherry Valley, Mass.; Ludlow, Mass.; Holyoke, Mass.; Springfield, Mass.; Chicopee, Mass.; Hartford, Conn.; and Middletown, Conn.

Altogether the trip was most instructive and left in the minds of the graduates the magnitude of the industry and the problems that have to be met to become successful leaders in the textile field.